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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Bernau clothing depot [REDACTED] is situated in Schoenfelder Weg.
2. The commander of this unit was, until the end of October 1953, Lieutenant-Colonel Ivan Ivanovitch Boltruchek. At the end of the month he returned to the Soviet Union, and his deputy, Major Krasnik, is at present acting commander. Krasnik wears a dark red cap band.
3. This clothing depot, unlike that in Frankfurt/Oder, contains only new articles. Among other supplies, the following have been seen:
 - a. Footwear of all types
 - b. Bedding
 - c. Underwear of all types
 - d. Leather equipment of all types
 - e. Tents
 - f. Tarpaulins and blankets
 - g. Hides
 - h. Textile bales
 - i. Small electrical machine tools

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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4. Some of the clothing and equipment in this depot is manufactured in the Soviet Union, but a large part of it, especially clothing, is supplied by the German factories VEB "Fortschritt I" in Berlin-Lichtenberg and VEB "Fortschritt II" in Berlin-Weissensee. A large order for footwear which had been placed [redacted] with German firms in Weissenfels was canceled in October 1953. 25X1
5. In addition to offices and quarters, the unit has seven large clothing warehouses. An officer, usually of the rank of major, is in charge of each. Under his command are approximately five male and three female Soviet soldiers. Their assignments within the depot are subject to change, depending upon the pressure of work. 25X1
6. Each of the seven warehouses holds a certain type of goods, so that a unit requiring various articles of clothing and equipment must visit each of the warehouses in turn, and cannot draw all their requirements from one. For example, the following warehouses have the following goods:
- Warehouse 1 - Leather hides, rubber soles for boots, bales of textiles.
- Warehouse 2 - Caps, gloves, and soldiers' leather equipment.
- Warehouse 3 - Senior officers' shop, containing almost exclusively generals' equipment.
- Warehouse 4 - Boots and shoes.
- Warehouse 5 - Tents, furs, physical training equipment and small manual and electrical machines for fitters.
7. [redacted] employs between 20 and 30 German workers, both male and female, in addition to the Russian staff. These Germans are not assigned to individual warehouses, but constitute a pool of labor, to be sent where there is any manual work to be performed. They unload and load railroad cars, take them to the proper unloading site, etc. The German workers are not used to help soldiers in collecting clothing or equipment coming from other units, nor are they allowed to be present when individual articles are counted out, bundled, and signed out to units. Germans are allowed to enter warehouses only in the company of an officer; but this latter rule is sometimes waived in the interest of expediency. If a Russian and a party of Germans are engaged in unloading a railroad car, for instance, the Russian will not be able to leave the car; and if an article of supply is needed in a hurry, a German will get it even though no officer is present. 25X1
8. Captain Vlasov, [redacted] in Bernau, visits VEB Biesenthal as a member of the commission checking the adequacy of repairs to Soviet uniforms. 25X1

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